

## REMARKS

Claims 1 to 15 are pending, and claims 16 to 24 are canceled hereby, a Divisional application having been filed with respect thereto.

Claim 1 is amended hereby to include the limitations of claim 2 and to include the limitation that the clamp assembly includes at least one portion that is affixed to the handle adjacent to the sheath, and includes at least one portion also adjacent to the sheath that is movable with respect to the at least one fixed portion and to the sheath. This limitation is supported in the Specification in all the Figures and in paragraphs [0031], [0040], [0050], [0051] and [0058]. The clamp assembly is affixed to and adjacent the sheath in such a manner that it is operable by a single hand that also holds the sheath, a limitation that includes the limitation of originally filed claim 2, now canceled. This limitation is clearly supported throughout the Specification, especially in paragraphs [0010], [0043], [0047], [0058] and [0067].

Claim 2 is canceled hereby, with its limitations incorporated into amended claim 1.

Claim 3 is amended similarly to claim 1 to include the limitation that the clamp assembly includes at least one portion that is affixed to the handle adjacent to the sheath, and includes at least one portion also adjacent to the sheath that is movable with respect to the at least one fixed portion and to the sheath in such a manner that it is operable by a single hand that also holds the sheath. Claim 3 is also amended to correct a typographical error.

Claim 13 is amended to add the limitation that the body is in a fixed relationship with the handle and is adjacent the sheath.

Claims 1 to 15 stand rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by McIvor (U.S. Patent No. 6,213,988). Claim 6 stands rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over McIvor. Reference McIvor sets forth an introducer sheath that is splittable and having a hub at the proximal end, with a pair of handles. Each embodiment of hemostasis clip or clamp is coupled to one of the handles by means of a plastic lanyard, with the clamping member configured to be moved into engagement with the outer circumference of the introducer sleeve and provided with a mechanism for maintaining the clamping member in engagement with the outer circumference of the sleeve to compress the outer circumference of the sleeve around a catheter or lead body inserted therethrough.

With respect to claim 1 (as amended), the hemostasis clamp of the reference does not have at least one section affixed to the handle and adjacent the sheath in such a manner that another section thereof is operable by a single hand that also holds the sheath. Instead, the

clamp must be moved from its relatively random location into position around the sheath in a manner that requires two hands, as the artisan of routine skill would understand. Applicants therefore respectfully traverse the rejection.

With respect to the rejection of claim 6, claim 6 depends from an allowable claim and is therefore believed to be allowable.

Therefore, for the reasons above stated, the rejections of all of claims 1 to 15 is respectfully traversed.

No new matter has been added by these amendments, and allowance of all elected claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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